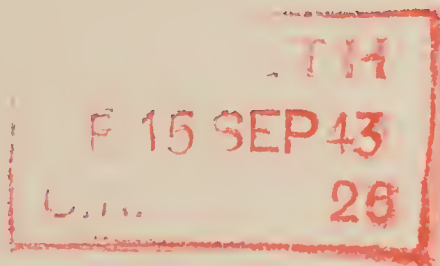


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WORTLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



INTERIM Annual Report OF THE Medical Officer of Health For the Year 1942.

J. MAIN RUSSELL
(M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.), B.Hy., D.P.H. Dunelm)
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

MEXBOROUGH :
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WORTLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1942.**

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Clerk		Miss F. MARSHALL.

To the Chairman and Members of the Wortley Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit an Interim Report upon the Health Services of the Wortley Rural District for the year ending 31st December, 1942.

Once again I have to point out that this report, like those for the three preceding years, is an Interim Report only, reserving until after hostilities the issue of a complete detailed report covering the war period.

The Ministry of Health placed restrictions upon the publication of statistics in the 1941 report in that nothing could be published which might have enabled any substantial series of local populations to be reconstructed. The report for 1942 is subject to the same restrictions, which in some ways is regrettable in that it is difficult to illustrate by tables and figures of rates the exact statistics for the year.

I think I can report, however, without any breach of these Ministry of Health regulations that the vital statistics for 1942 are encouraging. There were fewer deaths than in 1941 and the crude death rate is the lowest for nearly 10 years. Since the Registrar-General is still unable to secure a "Comparability Factor" one is unable to comment upon a true death rate. It is impossible for the same reason to make any comparisons between this district and any other district or series of districts. In 1942 also there was an increase in the number of births. In 1940 the Maternal Mortality rate was nil, but in 1942 there was one maternal death. I regret to have to report that the Infantile Mortality rate for this district has increased considerably during the year. There were more than double the number of deaths amongst infants under one year than in 1941 when we had the lowest Infantile Mortality incidence on record in this district.

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, the Clerk and other officials of this Council, and the Staff of the Health Department for their unfailing help and co-operation during the past year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. MAIN RUSSELL,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS.

The Wortley Rural District covers an area of 48,697 acres. The district is divided into four parishes : Ecclesfield, Bradfield, Tankersley and Wortley. The approximate acreage for each is as follows :—

Parish.	Acreage.	No. of Dwelling Houses.
Ecclesfield	6,147	5,107
Bradfield	35,134	2,876
Tankersley	2,436	561
Wortley	4,980	187
Total	48,697	8,731

The rateable value of the district is £192,871, while the product of a penny rate is £775 16s. 6d. as at December, 1942.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.—The Registrar-General has given a figure, but such cannot be published in this Report as requested in Circular 2604 of the Ministry of Health, dated 24th March, 1941.

The excess of births over deaths was 202.

Births.—During the year there were 487 live births—274 male and 223 female, an increase of 45 over 1941 figures. There were 23 illegitimate births.

Still Births.—During the year there were 21 Still Births, 11 male and 10 female, a decrease of 1 over 1941 figures. There were no illegitimate still births.

Deaths.—The number of deaths credited to this District in 1942 was 285—133 male and 152 female, a decrease of 13 compared to 1941.

TABLE SHOWING AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS.

Age Group.	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942
Under 1 year	18	16	10	24	9	20
1 — 2 years	1	4	4	3	6	—
2 — 5 years	2	3	5	6	6	4
5 — 15 years	6	13	3	5	0	6
15 — 25 years	6	7	11	7	8	4
25 — 45 years	21	22	22	30	31	20
45 — 65 years	80	81	81	82	96	77
65 years and over ..	159	141	151	192	142	154
Total	293	287	287	349	298	285

Infantile Mortality.—Twenty deaths, 6 male and 14 female, occurred amongst infants under 1 year. The incidence of infantile deaths is considerably higher than in 1941, but not so high as in 1940. Even with this number the incidence in this district is less than that for England and Wales generally. It will be seen from the following table that 50% of the infantile deaths in 1942 were attributable to Prematurity and Congenital and Wasting Diseases, while nearly one third were due to Pneumonia and Bronchitis.

Cause of Death.				Under 1 week.	1 to 2 weeks.	2 to 3 weeks.	3 to 4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	1 to 3 months.	3 to 6 months.	6 to 9 months.	9 to 12 months.	Total under 1 year.
Prematurity	..	..	..	6	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	6
Congenital & Wasting Diseases	..	..	..	2	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	4
Convulsions	..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	..	..	..	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	2	—	6
Violence	..	..	..	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Pyogenic Meningitis	..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Total	..	..	..	9	—	—	1	10	4	4	2	—	20
1941	..	..	..	4	1	—	1	6	2	—	1	—	9
1940	..	..	..	7	1	2	2	12	6	2	3	1	24
1939	..	..	..	8	—	—	—	8	—	1	1	—	10
1938	..	..	..	6	1	3	1	11	2	1	2	1	16
1937	..	..	..	11	—	1	—	12	1	3	2	—	18
1936	..	..	..	10	—	3	2	15	1	3	4	1	24

The areas of Residence Distribution of these cases was as follows :—

			Number				
District.	Parish.		1939	1940	1941	1942	
Bradfield..	Bradfield	..	—	..	—	..	1
Loxley ..	Bradfield	..	—	..	—	..	1
Stannington	Bradfield	..	1	..	1	..	1
Worrall ..	Bradfield	..	1	..	1	..	—
Bolsterstone	Bradfield	..	—	..	1	..	—
Oughtibridge	Bradfield	..	—	..	4	..	—
Dungworth	Bradfield	..	—	..	2	..	—
Chapeltown	Ecclesfield	..	4	..	3	..	6
High Green	Ecclesfield	..	2	..	3	..	2
Ecclesfield	Ecclesfield	..	—	..	7	..	5
Birdwell ..	Tankersley	..	1	..	—	..	—
Tankersley	Tankersley	..	1	..	2	..	2

Maternal Mortality.—There was one maternal death during 1942, the only maternal death in this district in the last 3 years.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATHS.

Disease.				1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942
Cancer	..	..	..	32	47	44	27	38	38	49
Heart Disease and other Circulatory Diseases	..	..	..	78	75	75	90	101	78	77
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	..	..	..	58	29	31	31	52	48	40
Nephritis	..	..	..	19	12	4	5	14	7	9
Peptic Ulcer and other Digestive Diseases	..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Diabetes	..	..	..	4	4	5	3	1	4	1
Rheumatism	..	..	..	3	4	2	1	7	2	2
Venereal Disease	..	..	..	—	—	2	2	—	2	1
Senility	..	..	..	—	—	12	13	2	—	6
Violence	..	..	..	18	11	21	13	16	17	13
Bronchitis	..	..	..	36	12	15	15	20	21	17
Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..	..	26	13	17	20	23	13	16
Other Respiratory Diseases	..	..	..	3	2	2	3	5	7	5
Epidemic Diseases (other than Tuberculosis	..	..	..	11	13	9	8	13	9	7

Epidemic Diseases.—The following table shows the principal causes of death in the Epidemic Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) group :

Disease	Number.			
	1939	1940	1941	1942
Diarrhœa (under 2 years) ..	1	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	5	3
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—
Typhoid, etc.	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ..	—	1	2	1
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	2	—	—	—
Influenza	5	12	2	2
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	1

Inquests were held in 17 instances, and in 12 other instances the cause of death was certified by the Coroner after *Post Mortem* Examination without Inquest.

**PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

Infectious Diseases other than Tuberculosis.—During the year a total of 601 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified. Set out below are tables which are self-explanatory.

Disease.	Total Cases			Cases admitted to						Total		
	Notified.			our Isolation						Deaths.		
	1940	1941	1942	..	1940	1941	1942	..	1940	1941	1942	
Smallpox	—	—	—	..	—	—	—	..	—	—	—	
Scarlet Fever	58	32	122	..	53	35	108	..	—	—	—	
Diphtheria	74	50	86	..	63	52	104	..	—	5	3	
Enteric Fever (includ- ing Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	..	—	1	—	..	—	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	3	3	7	..	3	—	—	..	—	—	—	
Pneumonia (Notifiable)	..	49	49	46	..	—	2	1	..	26	4	16
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	..	1	1	2	..	—	—	—	..	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	..	14	17	7	..	10	18	6	..	1	2	1
Dysentery	..	27	103	97	..	—	1	—	..	—	—	1
Erysipelas	..	8	7	8	..	2	1	—	..	—	—	—
Measles	..	473	263	184	..	2	4	3	..	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ..	..	4	129	41	..	—	4	3	..	—	—	—
Malaria (believed to be contracted abroad)	..	..	1	1	—	..	—	1	—	..	—	—
Typhoid	..	..	—	—	..	—	2	—	..	—	—	—
Chicken Pox	..	—	—	1	..	—	—	1	..	—	—	—
Anterio Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	1	..	—	—	—	..	—	—	—
Mumps	..	..	—	—	2	..	—	—	..	—	—	—
Pemphigus	..	..	—	—	1	..	—	—	..	—	—	—

DISTRICT.		Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.	Dysentery.	Measles.	Erysipelas.	Whooping Cough.	Acute Polio- myelitis.
Ecclesfield Parish :												
Ecclesfield	.. ..	17	14	6	—	—	—	—	11	3	2	—
Chapelstown	.. ..	24	35	10	6	—	1	—	14	—	7	—
High Green	.. ..	17	—	4	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	1
Hesley Lane	.. ..	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grenoside	.. ..	4	7	4	—	—	—	—	97	1	2	—
Tankersley Parish :												
Wentworth Station	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tankersley	.. ..	9	2	2	—	—	—	—	8	1	11	—
Birdwell	.. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	11	—
Wortley Parish :												
Wortley	.. ..	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—
Bradfield Parish :												
Midhope	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oughtibridge	.. ..	5	2	2	—	—	1	—	17	—	1	—
Wharnccliffe Side	.. ..	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Worrall	.. ..	3	14	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	—
Loxley	.. ..	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—
Stannington	.. ..	30	—	3	—	—	1	—	18	—	—	—
Dungworth	.. ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—
Hollow Meadows	.. ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bradfield	.. ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
S.Y.M.H. & W.E.H.	.. ..	—	8	8	—	—	3	97	1	—	—	—
Total	.. ..	122	86	46	7	2	7	97	184	8	41	1

A brief commentary on the statistics for each disease might be helpful.

Diphtheria.—During the year 104 cases of Diphtheria were either notified by official notification or by admission to the Isolation Hospital for diagnosis. Of this number 10 cases proved negative and one was a “carrier,” making a nett total of 93 positive cases. Of these 93 cases, 8 occurred in one of the larger institutions in the area. There were therefore 85 “District Cases” during the year. This was a sharp increase in the incidence compared to 1941.

There was an increase of 5 in the “4 to 5” age group and 16 in the “5 to 10” age group. It is interesting to note the remarkable increase in the incidence in the higher age groups, *e.g.*, a total of 17 in the “20 to 35” age group and 2 in the “45 to 65” age group.

Of the cases admitted to hospital 8 had been immunised, the records of such immunisations being confirmed by me on examination of their respective immunisation record cards. All other cases had not been immunised.

There were three deaths, all in the “5 to 10” age group, not one of which children had been immunised. Although there were fewer deaths than in 1941, I still feel that three deaths in this district are too many. One cannot emphasize too strongly the need for protective immunisation for all children from the age of 1 to 16. There are some parents who still refuse to allow their children to have this protection. I think it is now recognised that systematic immunisation of all children between the ages of 1 and 16 years does cut down, if not cut out, the death rate from this serious disease.

To eliminate epidemics of Diphtheria it is essential that 5 out of every 6 children should be immunised and it is absolutely essential that 9 out of every 10 under the age of 5 should be so protected. It is a fact that as the immunity rate increases so does the "carrier" rate. That means that as children become immune they may still acquire the organism and while they are protected and will not develop the disease, they are nevertheless "carriers." If the number of "carriers" are thus increased, the danger of those unprotected is increased. It is possible that this fact might account for the transfer of the incidence of Diphtheria from the lower to the higher age groups. One cannot be dogmatic on this point as the appearance of Diphtheria in the higher age groups has been previously experienced. There have been cases in this District in 1942 of fathers and mothers and elder brothers and sisters of immunised young children being admitted to hospital suffering from Diphtheria.

I think it can be safely said that the demand for immunisation has increased in 1942. This may be due to the intensified propaganda measures adopted in 1942. The results of these efforts have been very satisfactory. Every School in the district was visited and each Clinic was supplied with propaganda material. General Practitioners have informed me that in their private practices, the demand for immunisation has also been considerable.

During the year, 1,778 children received protection against Diphtheria, 495 of these children were under the age of 5. At 31st December, 1942, approximately 71% of the children in this District between the ages of 5 and 16 years were protected and approximately 34% between the ages of 1 and 5. I would like to see a larger percentage of the 1 to 5 age group protected. Diphtheria is undoubtedly a "killing disease" at this early stage of life.

Scarlet Fever.—1942 showed a sharp rise in the incidence of Scarlet Fever. The attack rate as per notifications is higher than that for the Country as a whole.

The increase of incidence of Scarlet Fever in some districts might be attributed to the fact that the type of disease was very mild. Many children suffered from a minor disability and it was not until some days elapsed, when desquamation was observed, that it was discovered that the child was actually suffering from Scarlet Fever. The child, in the meantime, had been attending school and going about his or her daily life. On one occasion I discovered a child in school to be suffering from Scarlet Fever although I was assured by the Headmaster and the parents that he never complained of any disability. It will be seen, therefore, that under these conditions it is extremely difficult to control an epidemic of a mild type of Scarlet Fever. In the few isolated circumscribed epidemics which occurred in the area every effort was made to trace a common source of infection but no such source could be obtained. It is the highest incidence of Scarlet Fever in this district since 1926, when there were 103 cases.

The areas principally affected during 1942 were Stannington, Chapeltown, Ecclesfield and High Green.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—There were 7 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia notified during the year, all of whom were treated in Hospital. There were no deaths. The rate of Puerperal Pyrexia notifications is higher than that for England and Wales generally.

Ophthalmia Noenatorum.—There were only 2 cases of this disease notified in the district and both cases were satisfactorily treated in Hospital.

Measles.—During the year under review, 163 civilian cases were notified, a decrease of exactly 100 on the previous year. Towards the end of 1941 a decline in the incidence was observed but in the early spring of 1942 there was a tendency for the number of notifications to rise followed by a decline with another rise in the incidence in the autumn. The areas principally affected during 1942 were Grenoside, Loxley, Chapeltown and Oughtibridge.

I must point out, however, that the figure given cannot be accepted as a factual indication of the number of persons who suffered from the disease during the year. On making investigations I discovered that on some occasions children suffering from the disease had not been seen by a Doctor and consequently had not been notified to me. Measles has always been a common "children's complaint," and by many, accepted as inevitable in a child's life. Consequently, therefore, the average mother and grandmother has acquired a fairly useful knowledge of the nursing of such cases and it is considered by some quite unnecessary to call in the Doctor. Thus a proper picture of an outbreak cannot be procured. The district was visited by an epidemic of the milder form of Measles, but it must be pointed out that Measles is a serious matter and the complications which might ensue are real and might be very dangerous. Measles, therefore, must not be taken lightly, for irrespective of its highly infectious nature, it can be a serious public health problem, with very harmful effects on child health generally. Parents should immediately isolate any child found to be suffering from Measles and call in the Doctor at once.

There were no deaths from Measles during the year and only in a few cases were there any moderately severe complications.

Whooping Cough.—There was a marked drop in the number of cases of Whooping Cough during the year, only 41 notifications being received. Although there were no deaths I learned on making enquiries that it was a moderately severe form of the disease which was prevalent in the district. The age group chiefly affected was the 5—10 age group, which is the age group commonly affected by this disease. The districts concerned in the epidemics were Birdwell and Tankersley.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.—During the year 7 cases of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis were notified, a marked decrease to the previous year. Three of these cases were non-civilian and were notified from one of the larger Hospitals in the District. We admitted to our Isolation Hospital 6 cases suspected to be suffering from this disease. Of this number two proved to be negative after investigation, making a total of 4 cases so admitted. There was one death. The prevalence of this disease in this district compares with the decline in incidence in the country generally.

Pneumonia.—Of the 46 cases of Pneumonia notified, 16 were notified from one of the larger hospitals of which number 6 were non-civilians leaving a total of 40 for the civilian population of the district generally. These notifications are sub-divided as follows :—

Acute Primary Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	45
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	1

Dysentery.—All cases of Dysentery notified were notified from the South Yorkshire Mental Hospital. There were no "District" cases notified, and the epidemic was confined solely to that Institution.

Erysipelas.—There were 8 cases of Erysipelas notified during the year, one more than in 1941, when the lowest incidence of this disease since 1926 was recorded.

Erysipelas is an acute infection of the skin caused by Haemolytic Streptococci. It seems worth noting that during the year when there was an obvious increase of infection caused by Haemolytic Streptococci, *e.g.*, Scarlet Fever and possibly Puerperal Pyrexia or Fever, the incidence of Erysipelas remains low.

CLOSING OF SCHOOLS.

On account of the prevalence of Infectious Disease in some of the Schools in this District, I found it necessary to recommend that certain Departments in certain Schools should be excluded for varying periods. In every case there was an improvement in the incidence of the disease following the term of exclusion.

The details of the action taken are as follows :—

School.	Disease.	Period of Exclusion.
Grenoside Council School Infant Department.	Chicken Pox.	16th March to 13th April.
Burncross Council School.	Mumps.	16th March to 13th April.
Dungworth Council School.	Measles.	5th May to 25th May.

Tuberculosis.—During the year under review 23 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified in the district. Of these 14 were Respiratory Tuberculosis and 9 were other forms of Tuberculosis.

The following table shows the age and sex distribution of the Tuberculosis cases and the details of the deaths.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Resp.		Respiratory.		Non-Resp.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 to 1 year ..	—	—	..	—	—	—	..	1
1 to 5 years ..	—	—	..	2	—	—	—	1
5 to 15 years ..	1	2	..	1	—	—	..	—
15 to 25 years ..	1	1	..	4	1	—	..	1
25 to 35 years ..	5	—	..	1	3	—	..	—
35 to 45 years ..	2	1	..	—	—	1	..	—
45 to 55 years ..	1	—	..	—	3	—	..	—
55 to 65 years ..	—	—	..	—	1	—	..	—
65 and upwards..	—	—	..	—	—	—	..	—
Totals ..	10	4	..	5	4	8	1	3

During the year 1942, therefore, there was a decrease in the number of new cases of Tuberculosis notified.

AREA OF DISTRIBUTION OF TUBERCULOSIS CASES.

District.	Respiratory,		Non-Respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F
Parish of Ecclesfield				
Ecclesfield	1	—	—	—
Chapelton	—	—	—	1
High Green	3	2	2	—
Thorpe Hesley	1	—	—	—
Parish of Tankersley	1	—	—	1
Parish of Bradfield				
Oughtibridge	1	2	—	1
Stannington	2	—	1	—
Bradfield	1	—	—	—
Loxley	—	—	1	1
Parish of Wortley				
Wortley	—	—	1	—

During the year 5 cases were admitted to Sanatoria for treatment.

3 deaths occurred in persons who had not been previously notified.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the Milk Trade), or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to Hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis).

From the table it will be observed that 23 new cases have been notified during the year, a decrease of 6 to the 1941 figures.

INFESTATIONS.

Scabies.—As mentioned in my 1941 Report, the Scabies Order 1941 came into force on the 28th October, 1941, and gave Local Authorities increased powers to deal with this infestation and its probable consequent complications.

There has been very little direct evidence of any marked infestation in this district and what information I have obtained as to the probable prevalence of Scabies has been more or less hearsay.

It is a great pity in my opinion, that compulsory notification of this disease to the Local Sanitary Authority is not the established principle, for it is seldom that I, at any rate, get any concrete evidence of the presence of Scabies infestation in any one family. Certainly, in this district, there is a form of notification whereby Assistant County Medical Officers, Health Visitors, etc., have been asked by the County Medical Officer to notify to District Medical Officers of Health any case of Scabies which they might meet in the exercise of their duties. Upon receipt of such notifications steps are immediately taken to visit the home of the infested person. Advice and help is offered to assist in clearing up the infestation. During the year approximately 30 such notifications were received. In practically every case good results were obtained, those affected carrying out the prescribed treatment satisfactorily. I have always found it difficult to get every member of the infested household to undergo a rigorous line of treatment, the excuse being either that the nature of the employment of these contacts and infested persons was such that they could not carry out the treatment or that there were no facilities at home to carry the treatment out as directed. There is no doubt whatever, that a Scabies Clinic in the district is necessary.

In March, 1942, the County Emergency Committee gave its consent to the County Medical Officer for the use of Fixed First Aid Posts as Cleansing Stations in the out-patient treatment of cases of Scabies. Arrangements for bringing First Aid Posts into use were left entirely to the District Medical Officer of Health. It was understood that the Medical Officer in charge of the First Aid Post and the voluntary staff should be consulted in the matter. There was no compulsion about it but the staff were asked to volunteer. The County Medical Officer promised that in the event of no full time Nurse being employed at the First Aid Post, that a County Council Health Visitor or School Nurse would give initial instruction to the volunteer staff in the treatment of Scabies. The County Council were also prepared to supply the necessary drugs in the out-patient treatment of Scabies at these First Aid Posts.

After a number of meetings with the Medical Officer and with the volunteer staff at the fixed First Aid Post at Chapeltown, I was unable to get them to volunteer for this work and in consequence nothing more could be done in the establishment of a Scabies Clinic at the First Aid Post.

In some areas it has been found convenient and more economical to provide out-patient treatment for patients and the disinfection of clothing and bedding, etc., at the Isolation Hospital. The County Council were prepared to meet the cost of treatment and disinfection. This cost would include the cost of transport, drugs, disinfection, up to a maximum of 10/- per case. As I mentioned in my report for 1941, I have considered the question of the establishment of an out-patient clinic at the Isolation Hospital, and at the Small-pox Hospital at Hallwood, but find that it is well nigh impossible to do so. Travelling facilities for the general public and inadequate numbers of staff in the Hospital are two factors which preclude the establishment of such a Clinic.

In-patient treatment for Scabies on the other hand is largely the responsibility of the County Council. In the administrative area of the West Riding of Yorkshire, all persons suffering from Scabies who cannot be cured by out-patient treatment, can be admitted for in-patient treatment to Public Assistance Institutions, the cost of such treatment being borne by the County

Council. Cases are admitted to such Institutions on the applications of the District Medical Officer of Health to the County Medical Officer for the latter's approval.

I have had no case reported to me requiring in-patient treatment for Scabies.

From knowledge gained by visiting the various Schools from time to time, there does not appear to be any real Scabies infestation amongst school children. There was no evidence of a general infestation by Scabies amongst the 150 or so children admitted to the Isolation Hospital during 1942.

I do not wish to create the impression that Scabies is not prevalent in the District to some degree—it is. The establishment of some Centre where skilled treatment can be carried out would undoubtedly encourage those infested to report for treatment and lead to a better statistical review of the number of cases being obtained by my Department.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 1942, there were no outbreaks of any of the non-notifiable infectious diseases. From information received it is possible that a minor epidemic of influenza occurred in one part of the area during the year but it was short-lived and the attack was a mild one generally. There were 2 Influenza deaths during the year.

Venereal Disease.—Regulation 33B of the Defence (General) Regulations 1939 came into force in November, 1942. The Ministry of Health through this Regulation 33B aimed at the control and treatment of Venereal Disease, the incidence of which had been on the increase in the country generally. This Council is not the local authority concerned in the provision of facilities for the diagnosing and treatment of Venereal Disease, but I have no doubt that in the early months of 1943 there will be an intensive propaganda campaign throughout the country for the control of Venereal Disease when all Sanitary Authorities will be asked to co-operate with the County Council and/or County Boroughs in their efforts to deal with the problem.

At the end of December, 1942, no statistics were available as to the incidence of Venereal Disease in this District and I had no means of obtaining them.

The question of Venereal Disease is one which is bound to raise controversial discussion. There are the moral, social and medical aspects of the problem, each a strong factor and deserving of the greatest consideration.

As a medical man and as a Public Health Official, I must state that in my view it is primarily a medical problem. We have in our midst a serious and dangerous infectious disease, and it is spreading. I am therefore, in favour of compulsory treatment of all cases of infectious disease irrespective of type, and I am also in favour of the compulsory control of the sources of infection.

So far as Venereal Disease is concerned, Regulation 33B, in its widest sense, means just that.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Isolation Hospitals.—There are two Isolation Hospitals provided by the District Council :

- (1) At Grenoside for the commoner type of Infectious Disease ;
- (2) At Hallwood for cases of Smallpox.

At Grenoside, the hospital is roughly divided into sections, one part for Diphtheria and the other part for Scarlet Fever. On the basis of 144 sq. ft. per bed and 72 sq. ft. per cot there is a total of 18 beds and 8 cots. There are available, however, 7 male beds, 7 female beds and 2 cots for Scarlet Fever cases, and 7 male beds, 7 female beds and 3 cots for Diphtheria cases. There is also a cubicle observation block containing 4 cubicles. Available in this block are 7 beds and 1 cot. At Hallwood there are available 7 male beds, 7 female beds and 5 cots.

HOSPITALS COMMITTEE, 1942.

Councillor	Mrs. E. Hayes (Chairman).
,,	Mrs. E. Stevenson (Vice-Chairman).
,,	W. J. Leverington, J.P. (Chairman of the Council).
,,	Mrs. E. Wragg, M.B.E., J.P., C.C.
,,	H. E. Boswell.
,,	F. Chambers, J.P.
,,	J. F. Frost.
,,	W. P. Green.
,,	T. W. Hulley, J.P.
,,	H. Ibbotson.
,,	A. Lomas.
,,	D. Mount.
,,	W. H. Marlow, J.P.
,,	G. E. Plant.
,,	Col. H. S. Walker.
,,	W. Ward.
,,	T. Whittington.

Staff :

Medical Superintendent	..	Medical Officer of Health.
Matron	.. ..	Miss C. Major, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N.
Sister	.. ..	Miss K. Brayshaw, R.F.N. (resigned 3/10/42).
Staff Nurse	.. ..	Miss E. Wiltshire, R.F.N. (appointed Sister 11/10/42, Resigned 19/12/42).
Assistant Nurse	.. ..	Miss E. Lockwood (resigned 19/12/42). Miss J. Nicholls (appointed 1/12/42).

There are 7 Probationer Nurses, kitchen and domestic staff, 2 gardeners and porters.

During the year under review a total of 229 cases was admitted to hospital, as follows :—

Scarlet Fever or suspected	Scarlet Fever	.. ..	108
Diphtheria	Diphtheria	.. ..	104
	Pneumonia	.. ..	1
	Measles	.. ..	3
	Whooping Cough	.. ..	3
	Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	.. ..	6
	Other cases	.. ..	4

There were 4 deaths—3 cases of Diphtheria and 1 case of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis. All the other cases recovered. No cases were admitted to Hall-wood during the year 1941.

Laboratory Facilities.—All necessary facilities are available at the County Laboratory, Wakefield, and any urgent diagnostic examinations have been carried out at the Laboratory of the Sheffield University. The cost of the latter examinations is met by this Council. On many occasions I have found it was absolutely necessary to have an urgent diagnosis and it was a considerable saving in time to have the necessary examination made at the Sheffield University Laboratory.

The Ministry of Health, after consultation with the Medical Research Council, have set up an Emergency Laboratory Service, which presumably, will still function if any national emergency develops. I have had no up-to-date information as to the disposition of the Laboratories concerned but no doubt that information would be made available if ever the necessity arose for the using of these Laboratories.

Bacteriological Examinations were made by the County Laboratory of 231 specimens during 1941. They were as follows:

Sputa for Tubercle Baccilli	..	..	..	2
Swabs for B. Diphtheriae	..	..	..	223
Urines for general examination	..	..	..	1
Swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci	..	..	..	1
Urines for Pregnancy Test	..	..	..	4
				231

Ambulance Facilities.—This Council possesses two motor ambulances for use at the Infectious Diseases Hospital. One of these vehicles was purchased by the Council in 1941 and is the one in general use. An older vehicle recently overhauled and re-painted, is available as a stand-by ambulance.

In the event of their ambulances being out of commission, this Council have an arrangement with Sheffield Corporation for the use of one of their fleet attached to Lodge Moor Isolation Hospital at a charge of 2s. 6d. per mile for the mileage covered out and home.

Ambulance facilities for cases of sickness are provided by the Sheffield Central Ambulance Services for all contributors to the 1d. in the £ scheme of the Sheffield Joint Hospitals and for all necessitous poor and old age pensioners. The Sheffield Central Ambulance Services are available for non-contributors in the district for any case of sickness as the result of the District Council making an annual contribution to the Service. All street and road accidents are dealt with by the Police.

Clinics.—In the area there are eight Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics. They are at Chapeltown, Ecclesfield, Grenoside, High Green, Tankersley, Oughtibridge, Stannington and Loxley. The clinic at Stocksbridge is available for those resident in that part of the parish of Bradfield nearest to Stocksbridge.

Hallamshire Maternity Home.—The County Council have built a Maternity Home at Chapeltown, which was opened on the 2nd November, 1940. This most modern and up-to-date hospital, magnificently equipped, has 22 beds for the reception of cases from the administrative County. Arrangements can be made for the admission of private cases.

Ante-Natal Clinics are held at Chapeltown and High Green.

Venereal Disease Clinics.—There are 5 Special Treatment Centres for Venereal Disease, particulars of which are given below:—

<i>Address.</i>		<i>Days and Hours of Attendance.</i>	
		Men.	Women and Children.
Barnsley (Queen's Road)		Mon., 6—8 p.m.	Mon., 2.30—4.30 p.m.
		Thurs., 6—8.30 p.m.	Thurs., 2.30—6 p.m.
Rotherham (No. 12, Frederick St.)		Tues., 9.30 a.m., —12.30 p.m. and 5.30—8 p.m.	Tues., 2—5 p.m.
		Fri., 9.30 a.m.— 12.30 p.m.	Thurs., 2—5 p.m.
			Fri., 5.30—8 p.m.
			Sat., 9.30 a.m.— 12.30 p.m.
Sheffield (Jessop Hosp. For Women)		—	Tues., 4—6 p.m.
		—	Thurs., 4—6 p.m.
		—	Sat., 11 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Royal Hospital		Tues., 6 p.m.	Thurs., 11 a.m.
		Thurs., 6 p.m.	Fri., 6 p.m.
Royal Infirmary		Tues., 5—7 p.m.	Tues., 2—4 p.m.
		Wed., 5—8 p.m.	—
		Fri., 6—8 p.m.	—

Tuberculosis.—The greater part of the District is served by the Dispensary at Wadsley Bridge. For those patients in that part of Bradfield nearest to Stocksbridge, the dispensary there is available, while the Barnsley Dispensary is available for patients from the Tankersley district.

Mortuary.—The public mortuary and post-mortem room at Grenoside belonging to the District Council is available for the whole area.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Water Supply.—The rainfall for the year, recorded at the Sewage Works, Ecclesfield (172 feet above Ordnance datum) was 24.77 inches.

This figure is substantially lower than that for 1941, and also much below the average for the past 16 years, which is 29.43 inches.

The driest month was February and the wettest was August.

Except for approximately 300 isolated houses and farms, the water supply for the district is obtained from the following sources:—

- Sheffield Corporation Waterworks.
- Barnsley Corporation Waterworks.
- Dearne Valley Water Board.
- Wortley Estate Waterworks.
- Whitley Private Supply
- and Wortley Council Hallbroom Supply.

During the year the Sheffield Corporation Supply was made available to 66 houses at Top Side, Grenoside, and the majority of these are now served from this supply.

The new borehole at Hallbroom, work upon which was begun in July, 1941, was completed in December of this year at a depth of 450 feet 6 inches.

During the year 13 samples of water were taken—12 for bacteriological and 1 for chemical analysis. Five of the samples were unsatisfactory and suitable measures were taken in these cases to eradicate the contamination.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.—There were no sewerage extensions during the year and no alterations were carried out at any of the sewage works.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION AND SCAVENGING.

The following table shows the number of houses, water closets, privies, etc., in the District at the end of the year:—

Locality.	Houses.	Water Closets.	Privies.	Pail Closets.	Ash- pits.	Ash- bins.
Ecclesfield	1512	1246	62	1	140	1247
Chapelton & High Green	2743	2293	111	—	203	2278
Grenoside	761	539	126	—	156	510
Thorpe	160	69	43	—	42	44
Total, Ecclesfield Parish ..	5176	4147	342	1	541	4079
Wadsley	43	26	2	—	6	42
Worrall	279	216	33	—	37	210
Oughtibridge	822	650	60	2	114	573
Wharnccliffe Side	224	169	33	—	58	141
Loxley	308	191	88	—	93	178
Stannington	882	572	183	7	173	577
Bradfield	99	8	69	4	59	10
Hollow Meadows	39	23	14	6	16	10
Midhope	44	2	26	14	26	1
Rest of Bradfield	136	11	98	25	100	—
Total, Bradfield Parish ..	2876	1868	606	58	682	1742
Tankersley Parish	559	490	76	4	99	418
Wortley Parish	184	108	97	—	83	51
Grand Totals	8795	6613	1121	63	1405	6290

Privy Conversions.—During the year, 2 privies were converted into Water Closets and 2 Waste Water Closets were replaced by 2 modern Water Closets. At Midhope, the Barnsley Corporation replaced 3 privies with 6 pails as a protective measure against pollution of their reservoir.

Scavenging.—With the exception of a few outlying farms and houses, the whole district is publicly scavenged by direct labour, mechanical transport being utilized throughout.

The Scavenging staff consists of 19 loaders, 5 drivers and 3 tip controllers, one of the latter being employed part-time only. Six vehicles are utilized, one lorry complete with driver being hired full time for scavenging the Tankersley and Wortley parishes. The remaining five vehicles are owned by the Council.

All refuse collected is disposed of by controlled tipping, six tips being utilized for the purpose. The tips are controlled by specially engaged staff, and no complaints have been received of any nuisance arising therefrom. The tip at Ecclesfield will soon be filled in and arrangements will have to be made for the acquisition of a new site.

An estimated weight of 10,160 tons of refuse has been collected, removed and disposed of at a cost of £6,342 18s. 6d.

These figures represent an approximate weight of 1.15 tons and an approximate cost of 14/5d. per household per annum.

Once again the weight of refuse removed has decreased and the cost has risen. The rise in cost is due to increases in wages, whilst economy in the use of fuel and extraction of commodities for salvage account for the decrease in weight.

Despite the shortage of suitable staff and the heavy calls made upon it, this service has been very satisfactorily maintained.

Salvage.—No changes have been made in the arrangements for dealing with the salvage effort in the district during the year.

The hutments at Pack Horse Lane, Mortomley and Mill Road, Ecclesfield, continue to serve as baling and storage depots, one man being employed at each. A disused house at Ecclesfield is also rented for the safe storage of glass jars and bottles and aluminium. Improvements have been carried out to storage huts on the tips in order to protect salvaged articles from the possible ravages by rats and other vermin and also from occasional pilfering by irresponsible persons. The latter is still considerable.

In addition to paper, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, bones, rags and glass bottles and jars, rubber and twine have also been collected during the year.

No difficulty has been experienced in disposing of any of the salvaged articles.

Arrangements have been made for the sale of loose tins to the Sheffield Corporation Cleansing Department, who bale them at their Penistone Road Destructor plant. The price received just about covers the expense involved in removing the tins.

The second National Waste Paper Contest organised to stimulate the salvage of waste paper throughout the country took place during the months of May, June and July. Benefiting from experience gained in the first contest held last year, the Organisers grouped competing authorities into three divisions, *viz.*, Borough Councils, Urban Councils and Rural Councils.

The judging was based on the weight of salvaged paper, books, etc., collected per 1,000 of the population, and prizes were awarded to each division.

Although our collections during the contest were much above normal, we did not succeed in winning a prize.

The weights of paper collected in the district were as follows :—

Month.	Collected by Council.				Collected by P.O.				Totals.		
	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrts.		Tons.	Cwts.	Qrts.		Tons.	Cwts.	Qrts.
May ..	22	11	0	..	13	10	0	..	36	1	0
June ..	22	4	3	..	13	5	0	..	38	9	3
July ..	23	7	1	..	8	0	0	..	31	7	1
	68	3	0	..	34	15	0	..	102	18	0

Weight collected during contest per 1,000 population :

Tons.	Cwts.	Qrts.	Lbs.
3	12	0	23

A total of 297 tons of waste material valued at £1,524 was collected by the Council during the year and an additional 142 tons by private organisation. These figures show a considerable increase on last year and represent approximately a weight of 1 cwt. and a value of 3/8 per household for the year.

The following table gives details of the year's sales compared with those for 1941 :

Commodity.	Salvage Statistics for 1942.						Salvage Statistics for 1941.					
	Weight.			Value.			Weight.			Value.		
	T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.	T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
Paper (Coun. Coll.)	207	8	1	1164	2	11	162	3	1	699	19	5½
Paper (Priv. Organ)	142	5	0	—			6	2	2	—		
Scrap (Ferrous) ..	29	10	1	72	5	4½	15	15	1	41	10	6½
Scrap (Non-Ferrous)	0	19	3½	32	0	5	0	11	1¾	19	10	7
Scrap (Tins) ..	30	13	2	—			23	0	2	—		
Bones ..	12	6	1½	45	16	7½	8	8	8½	25	11	11
Rags ..	12	7	3	192	13	9	3	18	2	15	14	0
Bottles, Jars & Cullet	3	4	1	17	1	10	—			—		
	438	15	1	1524	0	11	219	19	3¼	802	6	6

An interesting summary of salvage returns made by local authorities in Yorkshire for the three years ended 31st October, 1942, was compiled and circularised by the Honorary District Adviser. Although local conditions vary considerably and make accurate comparisons difficult, the following figures illustrating this Council's effort compared with the average of the 47 rural authorities in Yorkshire are very interesting :

Value of Salvage in £'s per 1,000 of Population.

Year.	Wortley R.D.	Average of 47 R.D.'s in Yorks.
1940	17.3	11.3
1941	29.9	23.6
1942	47.7	49.4
Total	94.9	84.3

Although our figure for 1942 is slightly below the average, the campaign considered as a whole can be considered as satisfactory.

Nuisances.—During the year 1,095 visits were made for the detection and abatement of nuisances and the supervision of work in progress. The number of nuisances dealt with, including 14 outstanding from last year was 190, and of these 175 were abated.

The 176 nuisances reported during the year comprised :—

- 73 choked and defective drains.
- 49 choked and defective water closets.
- 24 defective roofs, spouting, etc.
- 13 defective ashbins.
- 9 defective privies
- and 8 other nuisances.

VERMINOUS HOUSES.

During the year 350 visits were made to 160 Council and 16 privately owned houses in the district for the purpose of detecting and dealing with bed bugs and cockroaches.

Treatment of premises infested with bed bugs has been carried out by the use of Zaldecide or Sulphur Compounds, and in bad cases by a combination of the two.

It has always been recognised that secondhand furniture, including pictures, has been one of the common transmitters of bed bug infestation. At the present time, the buying and selling of this class of furniture is much more common than in peace-time and the problem of the possible infestation by bed bugs from this source is therefore more acute.

Several cases of bed bug infestation traceable to second-hand furniture have recently been dealt with and it is quite probable that for every case which comes to our notice, several are never reported.

In the interests of Council property, it is advisable that all tenants of Council houses be instructed to notify the Health Department when purchasing second-hand furniture so that an inspection can be carried out before the furniture is taken into the house. On application, similar inspection will be carried out free of charge on behalf of tenants of private houses.

Pyrethrum powder was supplied for use against cockroaches but towards the end of the year, supplies were very difficult to obtain. Finally the supply failed completely. This was due to controlling of the commodity by the Ministry of Supply. As insecticide manufacturers are also affected by this control, it is quite probable that pyrethrum will not be available for household use for the period of the war. This is regrettable as the powder is very effective in its action against insect pests and yet quite safe. However, tests are being carried out to find a suitable substitute.

The following table gives details of inspections carried out during the year :—

Ward.	No. of Visits.	Houses found to be Verminous		Cock- Bugs.	roaches.	Houses		Insec- ticide left.
		No. of Council.	Houses Private.			Houses Sprayed.	Houses Stoved.	
Chapeltown ..	49	24	3	6	9	1	5	15
High Green..	165	66	5	5	62	3	—	67
Ecclesfield ..	38	18	8	3	15	1	—	18
Grenoside ..	8	8	—	2	6	—	—	8
Tankersley ..	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Westnall ..	72	37	5	9	29	3	—	38
Stannington	10	8	2	—	8	—	—	8
Loxley ..	6	3	3	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	350	165	27	25	129	8	5	154

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.—Thirty complaints were received regarding the infestation of premises by rats and mice. These cases were investigated, suitable bait given and persons concerned advised as to how the vermin could best be eradicated.

Rodine and Red Squill baits were issued for the purpose.

Shops Act, 1930.—Thirty-five inspections were made under the above Act during the year. There are 105 shops on the register and all have suitable sanitary accommodation. Unsatisfactory conditions were found in 3 cases but these were remedied.

Moveable Dwellings.—The number of this class of dwelling in the district is approximately 40. These structures are inhabited at week-ends and 80 visits have been made to ensure that the occupants are complying with the requirements. There is a slight tendency for increase in the number of these structures.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.—During the year 888 inspections of the cow sheds and dairies in the district were made. Thirty notices were served on cow-keepers to cleanse and lime-wash the premises and all were complied with.

The following are the details of the classification of premises and purveyors in the district :—

Registered Cow-keepers	..	..	..	..	224
Producer retailers	..	..	..	..	195
Producer wholesalers	..	..	..	..	29
Retailers only	..	..	..	..	27

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938, one licence is in force for the production of Tuberculin Tested milk, and 13 for Accredited milk. Three supplementary licences to sell Pasteurised milk were issued by the District Council. A plant for bottling Pasteurised Milk was completed during the year.

During the year 40 samples were taken by the West Riding County Council Sampling Officer. Eleven of these samples were from school milk suppliers, 2 being unsatisfactory. Of the remaining 29 samples, a further 2 were unsatisfactory. Special visits were made to the farms concerned. Shortage of labour is undoubtedly the chief cause of the trouble.

Meat Inspection.—The only slaughtering in the district is for the feeder's personal use under Food Circular F.I.G.107.

236 pigs have been slaughtered for this purpose and inspection of the carcasses was carried out.

One carcase was found to be unfit for human consumption and was destroyed.

Requests for the inspection of small quantities of defective tinned goods have been received from retailers from time to time.

HOUSING.

The erection of 2 dwellings by private enterprise at Chapeltown was completed during the year.

Since 1930, 2,121 houses have been built by private enterprise. The distribution of these houses is as follows :—

			By Council.		By Private Enterprise.
Ecclesfield Parish :					
Ecclesfield	..	..	298	..	413
High Green	..	..	330	..	392
Chapeltown	..	..	220	..	312
Grenoside	..	..	63	..	6
Thorpe Hesley	..	..	—	..	
Bradfield Parish :					
Oughtibridge	..	..	154	..	158
Worrall	..	..	18	..	142
Stannington	..	..	84	..	381
Loxley	..	..	50	..	57
Dungworth	..	..	8	..	4
Middlewood	..	..	—	..	74
Wadsley	..	..	—	..	5
Wharncliffe Side	..	..	—	..	70
Other parts of the Parish	..	..	—	..	38
Tankersley Parish	..	..	106	..	58
Wortley Parish	..	..	—	..	11
Totals	..	..	1334	..	2121

The total number of houses erected by the District Council remains at 1,334, which figure includes the hutments at Ecclesfield, Chapeltown and High Green, none of which are now used as dwellings.

Eight empty houses were requisitioned under the Defence Regulations for the use of families rendered homeless by enemy action. All these houses were the subject of Demolition or Compulsory Purchase Orders. Sufficient repairs were carried out to make them temporarily habitable. Licences for the use of these houses for this purpose are necessary from the Ministry of Health, and these require renewal every six months.

Building Byelaws.—During the year 76 plans were approved under the above byelaws. Of this number 27 were concerned with the erection of greenhouses and toolsheds, 8 referred to garages, 4 to extensions or additions to factories. Of the remainder 5 related to drainage works, 13 to additions and alterations to existing buildings, 2 to porches, 7 to canteens, 3 to W.C.'s or conveniences, 3 to petrol tanks, 1 each to an educational institute and a dairy.

Fourteen breaches of byelaws were reported to the Council.

Factories.—There are 73 factories registered in the district under the Factories Act, 1937, and of these 63 utilise mechanical power.

Improvements to sanitary conveniences at 3 factories were carried out, 3 additional water closets being provided.

